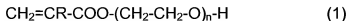


Examiner's amendment

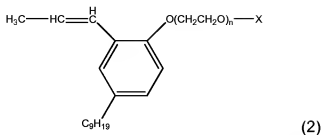
1. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Burton A. Amernick on August 28, 2009.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

In claim 2, line 2, after "magnetic substance", replace the word "having" with --, wherein the magnetic substance has--.

In claim 2, last line, after "magnetic substance is 0.27 or less", insert the following: --, wherein the monomer not having a hydrophilic group comprises a monomer having a glycidyl group and a styrenic monomer and wherein the monomer having a hydrophilic group is polyethylene glycol (meth)acrylate represented by the following general formula (1) or a compound represented by the following general formula (2):



in the formula, R represents H or CH₃, and n represents an integer of 1 to 20,



in the formula, X represents H or SO_3NH_4^+ , and n represents an integer of 3 to 30--

4. Claims 5-7 and 18-28 have been cancelled.

Conclusion

5. Claims 2-4, 8, and 10-17, now renumbered as 1-12 are allowed.
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shafiqul Haq whose telephone number is 571-272-6103. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark L. Shibuya can be reached on 571-272-0806. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Art Unit: 1641

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Shafiqul Haq/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1641